

King County Public Health Department

Program Profiles for Prevention Division Programs: STD/HIV and Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention

Background

The Prevention Division provides foundational public health services across five sections to protect the public from infectious and chronic diseases and injury prevention. The Division also provides medical examiner services. Most Prevention Division services are mandated under state law (e.g. Chapter 246-170 and 70.24, 70.58 of the Washington Administrative Code) and county code (e.g. 2.24). The description below pertains to areas of Prevention Division where budget reductions were necessary.

Brief Program Profiles

1. STD/HIV

King County has 7,300 residents living with HIV with 1,000-1,500 additional residents who likely have HIV but have not yet been tested. Approximately 80% of HIV cases in King County are among men who have sex with men (MSM). About 62% of people living with HIV or AIDS (PLWH) in Washington State reside in King County, and 76% of King County cases reside in Seattle. King County has nationally recognized high levels of HIV viral suppression among PLWH, due to efforts to assure that at-risk individuals are tested regularly and obtain treatment early if positive for HIV. Among persons using injected drugs, HIV prevalence remains low due to syringe exchange, opiate substitution treatment and other service engagement efforts.

Current Level of STD/HIV Program Service

- The HIV/STD programs plan for and assure HIV care and prevention services, STD clinic services, HIV/STD partner services, syringe exchange, HIV/STD education and technical assistance, HIV/STD surveillance & epidemiology, and laboratory testing.

Proposed STD/HIV Changes in 2015-2016

- The STD/HIV Section will trim but not eliminate its promotional activities pertaining to HIV Prevention. With reduction of 1.0 FTE, some health education activities will decrease such as training of staff in other health agencies and less provision of technical assistance and coordination in developing prevention media and educational materials among partner agencies.

2. Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention

The Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention (CDIP) section develops and provides information, tools, and strategies to prevent and reduce chronic disease and injuries by working to change systems, environments and policies that will enable positive behavior change to prevent and manage chronic disease and avert injuries, and reduce disparities. Programs include Health Eating/Active Living (HEAL); Tobacco Prevention; Asthma and Diabetes; Breast, Cervical and Colon Health Program (BCCHP); and Violence and Injury Prevention.

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Current Level of CDIP Service

- The program has increased access to healthy food and beverages and improved opportunity for physical activity in many communal settings, particularly childcares, schools, hospitals. The program reduces tobacco access to adolescents and protection from second hand smoke in housing units and public places, helps families prevent and manage asthma and diabetes, improved cancer screening among for people who don't qualify for insurance and improves prevention of deaths and injury due to traffic accidents and drowning.

Proposed CDIP Changes in 2015-2016

- **HEAL/Tobacco** is largely grant dependent and all but two staff each in HEAL and Tobacco will be eliminated in 2015-2016 unless one of two pending federal grant applications is successful. Preliminary indications are that the program will receive one of the two grants. Notification is in late September. **Asthma:** A three year grant was recently awarded to improve asthma care among Hispanic/Latinos and African-Americans in King County. **BCCHP:** This program funded by state and federal grants is reducing 1.8 FTE in 2015-2016 and reducing the amount of contracted services to screen uninsured women for breast and cervical cancer; reductions respond to less population need to more insured individuals because of Affordable Health Care Act. **Gun Violence Prevention and Child Death Review** is proposed to continue in 2015-2016 but on a smaller scale, and will be backed by the City of Seattle and with funds re-allocated from the Office of the Director.

Major sources of funding for the Prevention Division

King County General Fund; State Public Health Funding; Medicaid Administrative Claiming; Medicaid reimbursement revenue for patient services (Title XIX, Title XIX Healthy Options); and many targeted grants.

Prevention Division Community Partners

The Prevention Division has partnerships with a wide variety of organizations, including health service agencies, community organizations, voluntary health organizations and coalitions. There are more than a 100 referral agencies/programs, particularly in South King County, including other Public Health and King County programs and agencies (WIC, MSS, King County Prosecuting Attorney, the King County Sherriff's office and the King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, etc.), schools, community health centers, other community based organizations and funeral homes.